



## Chapter 1: Sounds

### Suggested Time Schedule: 44 Sessions/Classes

The twenty six letter shapes and their corresponding sounds are dealt with in this chapter. The aim is to introduce the letters of the alphabet as sounds. It is helpful to treat the alphabet as a set of letter sounds. Short sounds/most commonly occurring sounds for the letters are used to begin with. This creates a confusion-free association between the letters and the respective sounds. The teacher should subconsciously impart the knowledge of sounds to children. This can be done through activities like flash cards, games, rhymes, picture identification.

**a** is introduced as /æ/, the initial and medial sound in *axe* and *cat*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *father*, *about*, *fall*, *able*, *share* and *private*.

**e** is introduced as /e/, the initial sound of *egg* or the medial sound of *bed* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *pretty*, *anthem*, *sergeant*, *café*.

**i** is introduced as /i/, the initial sound of *ink* or the medial sound of *pin* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *bite*, *sight*.

**o** is introduced as /ɒ/, the initial sound of *ox* or the medial sound of *pot* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *hello*, *only*, *who*, *oppose*, *tool*, *book*, *pistol*, *oven*, *done*, *month*.

**u** is introduced as /ʌ/, the initial sound of *under* or the medial sound of *fun* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *put*, *sugar*, *autumn*, *bury*, *suite*, *minute*.

**b** is introduced as /b/, the initial, medial and final sound in *book*, *noble* and *web*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *bomb* and *climber*.

**c** is introduced as /k/, the initial, medial and final sound in *cat*, *act* and *tunic*,



respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *celebrate*, *fancy*, *peace* and *cello*.

**d** is introduced as /d/, the initial, medial and final sound in *doll*, *idle* and *bed*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *asked*.

**f** is introduced as /f/, the initial, medial and final sound in *fat*, *after* and *puff*, respectively.

**g** is introduced as /g/, the initial, medial and final sound in *goat*, *eagle* and *dog*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *gene*, *general*, *large*, *energy* and *sight*.

**h** is introduced as /h/, the initial and medial sound in *hat* and *ahead*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *honesty* and *oh*.

**j** is introduced as /dʒ/, the initial, medial and final sound in *jug*, *object* and *fridge* respectively.

**k** is introduced as /k/, the initial, medial and final sound in *key*, *baker* and *ink*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *knife*, *know*.

**l** is introduced as /l/, the initial, medial and final sound in *line*, *old* and *ball*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *talk*, *walk*.

**m** is introduced as /m/, the initial, medial and final sound in *mat*, *humid* and *dam*, respectively.

**n** is introduced as /n/, the initial, medial and final sound in *net*, *since* and *bin*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *ink*, *bank*, *autumn*, *hymn*.

**p** is introduced as /p/, the initial, medial and final sound in *pen*, *apple* and *cap*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *psychology*.

**q** is introduced as /k/, the initial, medial and final sound in *queen*, *liquid* and *unique*, respectively.





**r** is introduced as /r/, the initial and medial sound in *rat*, *correct*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *arm*, *fire*, *corn*, *car*.

**s** is introduced as /s/, the initial, medial and final sound in *sun*, *ask* and *bus*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *sugar*, *his*, *measure*.

**t** is introduced as /t/, the initial, medial and final sound in *top*, *letter* and *foot*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *whistle*, *Christmas*, *ballet*.

**v** is introduced as /v/, the initial, medial and final sound in *van*, *anvil* and *move*, respectively.

**w** is introduced as /w/, the initial and medial sound in *wall*, *away*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *owe*, *know*.

**x** is introduced as [eks], the initial sound in *x-ray*, *X-mas* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *exam*, *xylophone*.

**y** is introduced as /j/, the initial sound in *yoyo*, *you* and *yellow* leaving out its pronunciation in words like *busy*, *boy*, *syringe*, *cry*.

**z** is introduced as /z/, the initial, medial and final sound in *zoo*, *lazy* and *buzz*, respectively leaving out its pronunciation in words like *pizza*, *seizure*.

A grapheme is the smallest unit of a writing system. All letters of an alphabet are graphemes. A grapheme may not carry meaning by itself. A phoneme is a unit of sound. In the words *kill* and *gill*, the initial sounds /k/ and /g/ are phonemes. In the English language there may not always be a one-to-one correspondence between grapheme and phoneme. The following table gives some of the different pronunciations (phonemes) for each letter (grapheme) of the English alphabet. In this manual we will be dealing with basic graphemes and their phonemes.



<b>Grapheme</b>	<b>Phoneme</b>	<b>Example(s)</b>
<b>a</b>	/æ/	<b>cat, sap, tack</b>
	/ə/	<b>about, arrive, assist</b>
	/ɑ:/	<b>ask, father, card</b>
	/ɔ:/	<b>all, fall, war</b>
	/eɪ/	<b>able, cake, tale</b>
	/eə/	<b>share, fare</b>
<b>b</b>	/b/	<b>book, noble, web</b>
	Silent	<b>bomb, climber, doubt</b>
<b>c</b>	/k/	<b>cat, act, tonic</b>
	/s/	<b>ceiling, peace</b>
	/tʃ/	<b>cello, cembalo</b>
<b>d</b>	/d/	<b>doll, idle, bed</b>
	/t/	<b>asked, hoped, kissed</b>
<b>e</b>	/e/	<b>egg, bed, pet</b>
	/ə/	<b>anthem, garden</b>
	/ɪ/	<b>pretty</b>
	/ɑ:/	<b>sergeant</b>
	/ɪ:/	<b>be</b>
	/eɪ/	<b>cafe</b>
<b>f</b>	/f/	<b>fat, after, puff</b>
	/v/	<b>of</b>





g	/g/	goat, eagle, dog
	/dʒ/	general, energy, fringe
	Silent	gnome, sight, foreign
h	/h/	hot, ahead
	Silent	honest, oh
i	/ɪ/	ink, pin
	/aɪ/	idle, fight
j	/dʒ/	jug, object, fridge, Raj
k	/k/	key, baker, ink
	Silent	know, knuckle
l	/l/	line, old, ball
	Silent	talk, calm, calf
m	/m/	mat, humid, dam
n	/n/	net, since, bin
	/ŋ/	ink, bank
	Silent	autumn, hymn
o	/ɒ/	ox, pot, bomb
	/ə/	oppose, pistol
	/ʊ/	book, wool
	/ʌ/	oven, done, month
	/u:/	tool, tomb, moot
	/əʊ/	only, hold, hello



p	/p/	<b>pen, apple, cap</b>
	Silent	<b>psalm, psychic</b>
q	/k/	<b>queen, liquid, unique</b>
w	/r/	<b>rat, correct, foreign</b>
	Silent	<b>arm, fire, corn</b>
s	/s/	<b>sun, ask, bus</b>
	/ʃ/	<b>sugar, sure</b>
	/z/	<b>cousin, busy, his,</b>
	/ʒ/	<b>usual, measure</b>
t	/t/	<b>top, letter, foot</b>
	Silent	<b>whistle, christmas, ballet</b>
u	/ʌ/	<b>under, fun, nut</b>
	/ʊ/	<b>put, bull</b>
	/ə/	<b>autumn</b>
	/e/	<b>bury</b>
	/ɪ/	<b>minute</b>
	/u:/	<b>sugar, June</b>
	/w/	<b>suite</b>
	[ju:]	<b>mute, cute</b>
	Silent	<b>tongue, unique</b>
v	/v/	<b>van, anvil, move</b>





w	/w/	wall, away
	Silent	owe, flow, know
x	[eks]	x-ray, x-mas
	/z/	xylem, xylophone
	[gz]	exam
y	/j/	you, yellow, yo-yo
	/ɪ/	syringe, cynic
	/i/	busy, city
	/aɪ/	cyber, cry
z	/z/	zoo, lazy, buzz
	[ts]	pizza, nazi
	/ʒ/	seizure

